



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 525
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2706
PHONE: (213) 974-8301 FAX: (213) 626-5427

J. TYLER McCAULEY
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

WENDY L. WATANABE
CHIEF DEPUTY

October 3, 2007

TO: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: J. Tyler McCauley *for*
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – PARAGON
CENTER, INCORPORATED – PARADISE HOUSE GROUP HOME**

We have completed a review of Paradise House Group Home (Group Home or Agency) operated by Paragon Center, Incorporated. The Group Home contracts with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation).

Paradise House Group Home is a six-bed facility, which provides care for girls ages 11-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Paradise House Group Home was not providing services for any Los Angeles County children.

Paradise House Group Home is located in Orange County.

Scope of Review

The purpose of the review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. Additionally, the review covers basic child safety and licensing issues and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, a facility inspection and interviews with children placed in the Group Home at the time of the review. Interviews with children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the program services provided by the Agency and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

Since Paradise House Group Home was not providing services for any Los Angeles County children at the time of our visit, the monitoring review covered basic child safety and licensing issues and included only a facility inspection.

Summary of Findings

The Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement.

Paradise House Group Home does not have any facility and environment or safety deficiencies noted. A corrective action plan for this Group Home is not necessary at this time.

Attached is a detailed report of the review.

Review of Report

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendations made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Don Chadwick at (626) 293-1102.

JTM:DC:CC:jdh

Attachment

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, DCFS
Susan Kerr, Chief Deputy Director, DCFS
Robert B. Taylor, Chief Probation Officer
Pamela Cutchlow, Executive Director, Paragon Center, Incorporated
Public Information Office
Audit Committee

**Paragon Center, Incorporated
Paradise House Group Home
Placentia, California 92834
License Number: 306001904
Rate Classification Level: 12**

I. Facility and Environment

Method of assessment – Observation

Comments:

Paradise House Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped.

The interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age-appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, a DVD player, books and a computer with a variety of programs.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.